

ART. XI.—*Addingham Churchwardens' Accounts, Vol. I*  
(1690-1848). By the Rev. F. B. SWIFT, L.Th.

*Read at Carlisle, May 3rd, 1952.*

THE only old records now in the possession of the vicar of Addingham are the Parish Registers (beginning 1601) and the first volume of the Churchwardens' Accounts, 1690-1848. The latter, which forms the subject of this article, is a dilapidated paper book which has lost its covers and probably one or two pages at the beginning. It measures, roughly, 12 in. long by 8 in. wide by  $\frac{3}{4}$  in. thick, and contains the Poor Stock Receipts and Accounts (except for 1719-1736 inclusive), Parochial Accounts, Purveys, Holy Communion alms and attendances, Vestry Meeting minutes and a few other items. In the following notes the contents of the volume have been divided into sections for convenience.

## 1. THE POOR STOCK.

The chief item in this was £20 which had been left by an unknown donor in his Will to the vicar and churchwardens for the benefit of the poor of the parish. As the whole stock amounted to £38. 2s. 4d. in 1704 (Bishop Nicolson: *Miscellany Accompt*, p. 172), other bequests must also have been made. One of these was 40s. od. left by Edward Mayplett, vicar of Addingham and prebendary of Carlisle in 1624 (Will at Carlisle Probate Registry). In the Account Book the whole sum is called the Poor Stock and the total amount varies from year to year. The principal was lent out and £1 of the interest was distributed to the poor by the churchwardens at Easter, any balance in hand being kept in the church chest. The vicar received 2s. od. and each churchwarden

6d. yearly, in accordance with the "unknown donor's" instructions, for looking after the accounts. These interesting small payments have now lapsed.

The first decipherable receipt given by a borrower of the Poor Stock reads:—

"Robart Hodgson of Marwhanby juner and John Tompson of . . in the parishe of Addingham doe acknowledge the receipte of thre pounds of curant Englishe moneye being part of the poor Stocke for the parishe of Addingham which said sume with the usual consideration we the said Robart Hodgson and John Tompson doe oblige ourselves our heires and administrators and assignes to pay upon Palme Sunday next to Thomas Richardson Joseph Sander John Grisdeall and Thomas Holme churchwardens of the parishe aforesaid for the time being or their suckessors witnes our hand the . . . day of Apriall 1695."

"Test: Richard Minickinge  
Mathew Hodgson X"

"Robart Hodgson R  
John Tompson"

All the other receipts are in nearly the same wording except for the names.

The accounts of the Poor Stock are entered up yearly. Those for 1695 and 1704, given below, are typical of the rest:—

	£	s.	d.
1695			
"The Poore Stock this year came to	32	15	0
of wch given to ye poore	1	0	0
To ye Churchwardens by ye will of ye giver	0	2	0
To ye Vicar for keepeing of ye accounts by ye will of ye giver	0	2	0
Left then in ye old Churchwardens hands 18s. to be lett out for ye use of ye poore	0	18	0"
1704			
"Rec'd then of Rich: Jackson being part of ye principal money	1	0	0
Rec'd then Interest of ye money			6
Paid in by Rich: Percivell	0	6	2
Received interest money	2	0	2
In all	3	6	10

### Deductions.

Given to ye Poor	1	0	0
For ye Churchwardens & Curate	0	4	0
	<hr/>		
	1	4	0

Remains in ye Churchwardens hands	2	2	10
of wch some twenty shillings was lent to John Teasdale & twenty to John Livack			
The Church Stock this year 1704 amounts to	38	2	10

'Ita testor J.X-opherson<sup>1</sup>  
Vicar: Admg:'''

The amounts let out varied from £1 to £4 each person; and the interest fluctuated between 3d. and 6d. in the pound.

There was always the danger that borrowers would fail to repay the principal or interest and a number of instances of this are recorded:—

3 May 1710 Tho: Cooper, 2 years arrears on interest lost—died insolvent 2s. 4d.

10 June 1713 Nat: Walton & Tho: Lowson, principal & interest  
lost—both died insolvent.

1717 Tho: Percivil, principal & interest lost amounting to £1 10 0—died insolvent.

On 16 April 1711 it is noted that £4 was lent to the School<sup>2</sup> and that 3d. was paid to Rich: Thompson for summonsing Tho: Lowson and Jon: Hodgson.

In June 1713 the names of the borrowers of the Poor Stock include Mr Robinson of Ousby £1, Ralph Kidd £4, Tho: Jackson £1, and the School £1.

On 18 May 1715 Mrs Lumley<sup>3</sup> added £4 to the Stock

<sup>1</sup> John Christopherson, vicar of Addingham, 1702-1758.

<sup>2</sup> Maughanby School.

<sup>3</sup> Mrs Catherine Lumley was the sister of Mr Charles Smalwood, LL.B., whose metal memorial tablet is fixed to the south chancel wall of Addingham church. She gave a large silver paten, inscribed as her gift, to the church as well as new Altar rails (*Miscellany*, p. 121). She was buried at Addingham 20 Jan. 1714.

and, on 23 May following, Alan Smalwood<sup>4</sup> witnessed a receipt.

The full amount of the Stock lent out at interest in 1713 was £45. 6s.; by 1739 it had increased to about £63. Whellan (p. 501) states that, in 1749, some of the money had been lost and that the parish had laid out the remainder, amounting to £51, in the purchase of several parcels of unenclosed land lying in Winskill Town Fields. This transaction may have been entered in the volume, for a few words remaining on a torn page seem to refer to it. Lower down under the year 1756, as if in continuation of such an entry, it is recorded that, with the consent of the vicar, churchwardens and several principal inhabitants, "one land so purchas'd lying on Roan Tree Lands was exchanged with John Shepherd for a land on Mellgate of equal measure & a land on Raiselands was exchanged with John Watson, ye parish to have ye low end & John Watson ye next Winskil."

These "lands" in Winskill Fields were the township's strips of arable land before the enclosures took place. After this purchase the detailed accounts no longer appear in the volume, but from 1787 the following two items are noted each year:—

"Rents of the Poor Lands of Winskill & Hunsonby	£4
Rents of the Poor Lands of Little Salkeld	£1"

This £1 was not part of the original Poor Stock, but was left to the vicar and churchwardens for the poor of the parish by Thomas Lowson of Skelton by will dated, 6 Feb. 1735, and was a rent-charge on certain land in Little Salkeld. After 1787 the £1 and the Holy Communion alms were added to the £4 from the land at Winskill, and the total amount divided equally between the four churchwardens, who distributed it to the poor

<sup>4</sup> He was the son of the above Charles Smalwood. The family lived at Salkeld Hall (then called Salkeld Lodge) and Alan's grandson, Charles, took the name of Featherstonehaugh when he inherited the property of that family. See CW2 xiv 215 f and 227.

of the parish yearly. In 1804, against the entry of the rent-charge, is written: "N.B. that by the Will of Thomas Lowson, the donor, the money to be given to those who receive no weekly pension from the parish."

The next stage in the history of the Poor Stock can be seen from the following:—

"1809. The lands belonging to the Poor of the Parish lying in different parts of Windscale (*sic*) fields, were this year exchanged & inclosed and the field or inclosure so obtained, to be called the Parish Raiselands, was let to Thomas Lough of Hunsonby for the term of seven years from Candlemas 1809, at the Yearly Rent of Twelve Pounds, to be paid by yearly Payments at Easter . . . the tenant having also engaged to keep & leave the Fences, Ditches, Gate & etc. in good & tenantable repair."

Rather strangely the cost of enclosing these lands was entered in the previous year's accounts:—

"1808 To expence of inclosing & letting Poor Lands, as per Bill delivered £9. 4s. 5d."

The rent of £12 meant more money for the churchwardens to distribute among the poor. In 1810 this was £2. 10s. in each quarter of the parish. In 1815 the Parish Raiselands was let to Joseph Falder of Winskill for seven years at £11. 19s. a year with the usual conditions as to repairs. It was also laid down that the land was to be well sown with grass seeds after a fallow, one year before the expiration of the term for which it was let.

From 1822 to 1847 the yearly rent varied from £11 to £13. 2s. In 1837 two new gates were provided at a cost of 14/-, and in 1847 the repair of fences cost £2.

The Parish Raiselands is now officially known as "Addingham Poor's Land", and it is the field marked no. 213 on the Ordnance Survey map. It is on the left hand side of the road about half way from Little Salkeld station to Winskill. The rent obtained from it, after the payment of expenses, is duly distributed by the churchwardens in their respective quarters at Easter.

## 2. CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS.

These are entered in detail from 1714 to 1848, though for 1720-1742 only the total expenditure is given. The items do not vary much from year to year, and such things as court charges, bread and wine for Holy Communion, washing the church linen or surplice, and an almanack always appear. Payments for "vermin" are fairly frequent, though it is difficult to understand why the harmless badger should have suffered such persecution. The "court charges" were incurred by the new and old churchwardens at the annual visitation court at Penrith.

The Accounts for 1715 read:—

"The Accounts of ye old Churchwardens Thomas Hodgson, George Cooper, Jonathan Vertie & Joseph Hodgson this 3rd Day of May 1716 to the new Churchwardens John Livioke, Miles Benson, John Holme and John Huthard for the year 1715.

Court Charges Comeing in	0	10	0
Court Charges goeing out	0	10	0
Bread & Wine	0	6	2½
Spade	0	2	0
Washing ye Church Lining	0	3	0
Almanack	0	0	4
Leading Stones	0	2	6
for Lime & fetching of it	0	2	0
A Wild Cat & a Badgers Heads	0	1	6
Smith work	0	1	0
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	1	18	6½
	<hr/>		
The Ballance of ye last year	1	0	7
Collected this year	1	4	11½
	<hr/>		
	2	5	6½"
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It is only possible to give extracts from the rest of the accounts:—

"1716 Glassing ye windows	00	01	10
Bell ropes	00	00	04
1717 Coals	00	00	06
1719 For a new Surplice	00	01	02"

On 11 June 1749 the churchwardens agreed that payments for "vermin" should be:—

"For a fox head	2s. 6d.
For a brock	1s. od.
For a foulmart	os. 4d.
For a wild cat	os. 8d.
For a raven	os. 2d."
"1797 For gate mending	2s. 6d.
1801 Bad copper	4½d.
1803 Sneck mending	2d.
1808 Stable door mending	1s. 6d.
1810 Pitch pipe and reed for bassoon	7s. od."

The last item of expenditure was incurred in an attempt to improve the musical part of the Services. At a vestry meeting held on Sunday, 29 April 1810, "to consider the best method of encouraging Psalmody in this Church", it was decided that the churchwardens should collect subscriptions from the principal parishioners for defraying the cost of a teacher. This brought in:—

Gamblesby	£4 6 0
Hunsonby & Winskill	£3 13 0
Little Salkeld	£2 5 0
Glassonby	£2 7 6
	<hr/>
	£12 11 6
	<hr/>

A teacher was obtained who gave instruction for two months at 23s. od. a week. A new bassoon cost £2. 5s. and the balance remaining in hand was used to pay for more lessons in "psalmody". The purchase of the bassoon indicates the formation of an orchestra to accompany the singing; probably a violin would also be used. There does not seem to have been a gallery in the church; apparently the singers and musicians occupied a "singing pew" which may have been in the chancel. Vol. II of the Churchwardens Accounts (1848-1903) records that on 16 June 1869 one Oliphant was paid 8s. 6d. for altering this pew. The orchestra perhaps

lasted until 1870 when a harmonium came into use, which, in its turn gave place to the present pipe organ in 1889.<sup>5</sup>

Further extracts from the accounts include:—

"1812 Bill for rebuilding stable	£12 12 od.
Rigging for ditto	9s. od."

This stable stood in the churchyard against the south end of the old eastern boundary wall which was removed when the churchyard was extended. A hearse house was built on to the stable after 1812 but they were both demolished in 1896-7, being replaced by new buildings which were added to the stable and coach house belonging to the Horrocks family, outside the churchyard gate. Formerly a path of sufficient width to accommodate the hearse led from the west end of the church to the south wall of the churchyard and then along the wall to the old stable.

"1814 Church door key	2s. od.
1815 Flagging Church Isle ( <i>sic</i> )	£1 3s. od.
Whitewashing Church and repairing windows	£1 2s. od.
New Bible	£3 0s. od.
Iron Chest or safe	£4 0s. od.
Repairing Bells	2s. od.
1816 Communion Table Cloth & Pulpit Cloth	£2 6s. 9½d.
Do. making	5s. od.
Pulpit Cushion	8s. 4½d.
1818 Book of Offices	6s. od.
1821 Black Hearse Cloth	£1 11s. 6d.
1825 Jos Bird for washing the Church	6s. od."

In 1827 and 1831 the vestry room<sup>6</sup> was repaired:—

<sup>5</sup> See *Prelates and People*, 440, for a list of instruments in use in the diocese in 1872.

<sup>6</sup> The vestry was, as now, on the north side of the chancel, from which it was entered by a door. In 1899 the roof was raised and a section of the intervening chancel wall removed so that it could accommodate the organ besides fulfilling its original function.



"1827	Laths, nails & prods	5s.	od.
	Timber and work	£1	2s. 8d.
	Slate and Carriage	14s.	od.
	Lime & carriage of wood	2s.	od.
	Slating	14s.	od.
1831	Mason's Bill	£1	2s. 6d.
	Vestry window	15s.	3d.
	Lime & Work	8s.	7d.
	Carpenter's Bill	£1	10s. od."

In 1828 the bell turret had to be taken down and rebuilt. Though here called a "steeple", it was really only a turret, containing two bells.<sup>7</sup> It is still in use. The work cost £8. 18s. 9d., including 3s. od. for stones, £1. 6s. 9d. paid to Jos. Kidd for carting and 15s. od. to Geo: Richardson, blacksmith.

Here are some more typical entries:—

"1835	Repairing Clerk seat	4s.	od.
1840	Mr. Arnison pr. Bill (Altar Cloth & etc)	£5	12s. 6d.
	Altar Service Book	£1	1s. od.
	John Dodd sadler Penrith—Flocks for cushions	4s.	8d.
	John Blenkinship for coals	11s.	6d.
	Lighting Vestry Fire	5s.	od.
1841	Thos Westmorland for New Gate in Churchyard	18s.	od.
	Wm Brown for flooring Vestry	£1	15s. od.
1844-5	Cleaning Church	5s.	od.
	Arnison—Funeral Cloth	£1	0s. 6d.
	Making Do.	2s.	6d."

### 3. INCOME.

The churchwardens paid the "church expenses" out of money obtained by purveys or rates. One purvey was about £1. 3s.; usually two or more were needed to meet expenditure. In 1764 four purveys were raised "all wch were disbursed (*sic*) to a farthing." The sums collected in the four townships of the parish for a purvey in 1794 were: Glassonby 6s. od., Gamblesby 6s. 2d., Hunsonby 6s. 2d. and Little Salkeld 5s. 1d., making a total of £1. 3s. 5d. After 1839 the word "purvey" drops out

<sup>7</sup> For Addingham Church Bells see CW1 ix 475.

and the next year a rate at  $\frac{3}{4}$ d. in the pound was levied. The result was an appreciable increase in income: Gamblesby £3. 14s., Hunsonby & Winskill £3. 14s., Glassonby £3. 12s., and Little Salkeld £3. 1s. 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. This was exceptional, however, and the next few years show an average of £2. 8s. for each township. This system of purveys or compulsory Church rates came to an end in 1869 when the "Compulsory Church Rates Abolition Act" was passed.

#### 4. HOLY COMMUNION ALMS AND COMMUNICANTS.

The churchwardens distributed the alms among the poor. The amounts are duly entered; later the numbers of communicants are also given. The latter statistics shed an interesting light on the spiritual state of the parish, and the evidence of "private communions" shows that the clergy were diligent in their ministrations.

From 1731 to 1763 Holy Communion was celebrated four times a year: the third Sunday in October, Christmas Day, Good Friday, and Easter Day. By 1835 it was five times a year, after which a celebration on Whit-Sunday brought the number up to six. By 1845 there were eight a year, the additions being on Ash Wednesday and at the end of August or beginning of November.<sup>8</sup> Naturally this gradual increase was much improved upon later in the century:—

*Extracts from the collection of alms.*

1731-1732. 10 Oct. 7s. 2d.; Christmas Day 7s. 2d.; Good Friday 6s. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; Easter Day 5s. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

1801 Midsummer 3s. 5d.; Michaelmas 4s. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; Christmas 3s. 6d.; Good Friday 5s. 11d.; Easter Day 5s. 11d.

*Extracts from the numbers of communicants.*

1805 Midsummer 35; Michaelmas 46; Christmas 42; Good Friday 44 and 7 private communions; Easter Day 56 and 6 private, and 9 private at Gamblesby.

1807 Good Friday 53 and Easter Day 41, private communion 26.

<sup>8</sup> For comparable statistics see *Prelates and People*, 388-9.

The early 19th century is often regarded as a rather dull time in the Church's life, but 120 communions for Good Friday and Easter in a widely scattered and thinly populated parish suggest that things were sometimes better than is often thought. In 1821 the figure for the same two days is 133, but in 1846 it is down to 65.

### 5. VESTRY MEETINGS.

The minutes of a few Vestry Meetings (usually held in church on Sundays) are included in the volume, the first is dated Sunday, 6 Nov. 1785. Repairs to the church were discussed and it was agreed to slate the church roof.

A Meeting held Wednesday, 12 July 1786, decided, with one dissident, to move the church porch from the south side to the west end of the church, but it was moved back to its original position in 1857. An etching of the church made while the porch was at the west end appears in Jefferson's *History of Leath Ward*, p. 328.

From other Meetings we note:—

10 July 1796. Agreed "that the wages of George Percival as Parish Clerk be raised to 6d. per house through the parish."

7 June 1811. "In consideration of the advanced price of every article of life" it was decided that "the Parish Clerk's wages be raised from 6d. to 1/- per house and every grave digging & attending the funeral from 1/- to 2/-."

There are no minutes of Meetings to elect the churchwardens until 1842, but the names are always given with the yearly accounts.<sup>9</sup>

There is no mention of a body called the "Sixteen Men" in this parish though it has for long been divided into four townships, or quarters, with a churchwarden to represent each township instead of the four men customary in a parish with a "Sixteen". The names of the townships are given in the body of this article. The parish boundaries are the same as they were in 1690.

<sup>9</sup> The Meeting on 21 April 1810 to consider "psalmody" has already been noted.

## 6. BRIEFS.

The sums collected in response to a number of briefs are included in the volume. The first, undated, but probably 1694, records: "Gathered in the parishe Church of Addingham for the poor sufferers of Warwicke the sume of 9s. 5d. by the hands of the Churchwardens Thomas Richardson, John Grisedale." Another in 1704 gives 15s. 9d. for the widows and orphans of seamen lost in "a late dreadful storme ye 26 & 27 Days of November 1703." Briefs for fires, etc., continue until 1828. Similar examples have already been printed in *Transactions*.

## 7. MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

A few odd items of interest are entered in the volume, among them:—

"1806 Memorandum. That Mrs Theodosia Kidd of Penrith being a native of Glassonby made a Present to this Parish of a Surplice for the use of the Minister, and also of a Bier-Cloth for funerals. The Surplice was first used on Palm Sunday March 30th 1806."

"Anno 1817. Be it remembered that in September of this year Lt. Colonel Lacy of Salkeld Lodge caused the floor of the Chancel within the Communion Rails to be raised about four inches & new-laid with flags, and also provided New Steps & Rails, at his own Expende."

These new Altar rails evidently replaced those provided by Mrs C. Lumley (see footnote 3).